

# Zonta Club of Porterville Newsletter

March/April 2020

## Inside this Edition

- **President's Corner**
- **Porterville Strong**
- **January Program**
- **February Program**
- **Evening of Art and Wine**
- **Slate of Officers**
- **Evening of Art and Wine**
- **An Evening Under the Stars**
- **Zonta Fashion Closet**
- **Amazon Smiles on Us**
- **Advocacy**
- **Z Club**
- **Membership**
- **Membership Updates**
- **Membership Anniversaries**
- **Membership Birthdates**
- **Dates to Remember**

## President's Corner

Dear Zontian Sisters,

I just want to say how proud I am to be a member of Zonta and especially Zonta Club of Porterville. Our members always step up and get the job done on whichever project or event we are doing, last night at our annual Art & Wine event was no exception. I believe I heard there were 7 member applications filled out. Our community sees what we are doing and they are excited to be part of it. The evening was a joy to be part of. Thank you to everyone that was part of this event in front of the crowd and all of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes.

Sincerely

Your President

*Lynn Trice*

## Porterville Strong

The dispatcher at the Memorial service called out to Ramon Figueroa and Patrick Jones 3 times before uttering "negative contact", then "End of duty, February 18, 2020" and "you are clear of your duties". It was a fitting closure that First responders from Miami/Dade in Florida, Baltimore, pipers from Canada, just from all around the world, enjoyed a glorious day at the fairgrounds with smiles, hugs and tears.

At least 12 Zonta members joined with many Porterville Service Clubs after the memorial service for our fallen firefighters. Breakfast Rotary, Lions, numerous groups from our high schools, as well as museum and library personnel provided food and served our first responders and their families after the Memorial service. David and Giovanna DePaoli graciously donated 350 pounds of macaroni salad on behalf of Zonta. Joining together as a community with other service clubs was more than



amazing...it was a "why don't we join together more often" moment. Something to think about.

Zonta has purchased two "Porterville Strong" banners. One to be displayed on the fence outside the library site and the other as needed. You are encouraged to donate books to the library and to celebrate this community.

Submitted by *Donna Raymond*

## January - Amelia Earhart

The Airway Café was the perfect setting for our Amelia Earhart program. Local pilot, Florenza Pizanis was our guest speaker for this program. Members enjoyed listening to her and learned how events in her life had led to her obtaining her private pilot's license. A fun time was held by all.

Submitted *Giovanna DePaoli*

## February - VADS

At the February program meeting, Kayla Muller, Executive Director of Valley Adult Day Services (VADS) presented a program on Alzheimer's, caregiving and services provided by VADS. Also she spoke of how it effects families. Zonta member, Susan McGuire, talk of her experiences with dealing with Alzheimer's with her mother and now more recently with her sister. Prior to the program a wonderful dinner was catered at the Barn Theatre.

Submitted *Giovanna DePaoli*

## Slate of Officers 2020-2021

Voting on the our slate of officers for the 2020-2021 year will take place at the March Business meeting (3/10/2020). The slate is:

**President** - Giovanna DePaoli

**1st Vice President** - Donna Sue Keeley

**2nd Vice President** - Norma Verdozco

**Recording Secretary** - Susan McGuire

**Corresponding Secretary** - Shirley Leppert

**Treasurer** - Joselyn Walker

**Asst. Treasurer** - Diane Graybehl

**1 Year Director** - Lawana Tate

Amy McCarville

**2 Year Director** - Marcia Brown

Erin Betts

# Evening of Art and Wine

Another Evening of Art and Wine is in the books! The ambience was excellent, the food scrumptious, the wine divine. From the looks of the attendees everyone was having a good time. The committee did a fantastic job of pulling together the multitude of details needed to make this event come off. All members pitched in by providing

appetizers, preparing and serving the food, pouring wine, setting and cleaning up. The Nuckols and their staff once again went beyond expectations to get it all ready for us and their effort showed throughout the evening. Thank you Gail, Adonas, and Bob. We had great support from Z Clubbers and Pam Wallace's two granddaughters who volunteered to help in the food department. We are grateful to have all these young women supporting us.

The raffles and auctions went well. Our MC/DJ Dave was able to get the crown involved and we had some hotly sought items up for bid. Raffle baskets were gorgeous and our new raffle ticket sheets made listening for the winning numbers so much easier. Several Zontians won raffle baskets and auction items. Boy, bidding on items is great fun. If you haven't done it before you must try it next time. It's especially thrilling when you're the winning bidder!

Kirby Banta's art was a hit! I saw many people walking away with pieces they'd purchased. Bethany Phillips displayed a vast selection of oils and pastels however was a bit discouraged by the lack of sales. I know she had at least one sale as I purchased a lovely winter bird done in pastels.

It appeared that attendance was down a bit (there were two competing events in town that night) that may be the reason. Time and tallies will tell how financially successful we were. Fingers crossed.

Thank you Larisa Gibson and Erin Betts for co-chairing the committee. Thank you to committee members Sharon Pearson, Norma Verduzco, Sherryl Lohse, Lynn Trice, Jan McKeel, Donna Raymond, Shirley Leppert, Lawana Tate, Esther Figueroa, Susie Carroll, Amy McCarville, Emily Whinery, Debbie Burgdorf, Donna Sue Keeley (Please forgive me if I missed anyone). Submitted by *Valerie Simonich*





## An Evening Under the Stars

Our annual Bunco "An Evening Under the Stars" has been set for Friday April 24th with proceeds benefiting our scholarship program. Susan McGuire and her committee have begun preparations - flyers are available (attached), our club website updated, the Chamber of Commerce notified and placed on their calendar of events. Members will be asked to sell at least 4 tickets. The ticket price remains the same as last year - \$25 each or a table of 4 for \$80. Tickets and a work party sign up sheet will be distributed at the March 10th business meeting. Any items you have for donation toward raffle baskets are greatly appreciated. Submitted by *Valerie Simonich*



## Zonta's Fashion Closet Fundraiser

The Zonta Fashion Closet will be held on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. We found a great location in the Bob Ruffa retail strip on Porter Road – and Bob Ruffa has generously donated the location for our use!

Please make time to go through your closets for clothing, purses, shoes, costume jewelry that are in **"like-new"** condition that you would like to donate. As the process of going through clothing and make the them look presentable is quite the task, the following guidelines have been adopted. Thank you so much for taking the extra time to donate items as follows:

- Clothing must be clean and hung on hangers. Pants don't have to be on hangers. Any clothing donated in bags will not be considered and taken to the women's shelter thrift store.
- Shoes can have scuff marks on the bottom, but should not have any signs of wear on the topside.
- Purses should be in **"like-new"** condition with no signs of wear on any part of them.
- Jewelry, also, should be in **"like-new"** condition with no signs of wear on any part of them.

We could use help to price clothing (date to be determined at a later time). We will be setting up on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> (time to be announced at a later date). We are also looking for members to work on the day of the event to help with costumers or as needed.

Please feel free to print the flyer and post at locations you think will get some attention (beauty shops, nail salons, etc.) Submitted by *Renay Sprague*



"You may not have saved a lot of money in your life, but if you have saved a lot of heartaches for other folks, you are a pretty rich man" *Seth Parker*

## Amazon Smiles on Us

We recently received payment for the first quarter of 2020, \$13.80. Okay, so it may not sound like much, but this is free money. The more we use AmazonSmile the better it is for our club. It's just a matter of getting in the habit of ordering our Amazon purchases via AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)) Let's see if we can increase this amount in the upcoming quarter.

What exactly is Amazon Smile? Amazon offers a program in which Amazon donates .5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Using the AmazonSmile website customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile money is donated to charitable organizations, of which Zonta Club of Porterville is a registered charity. Submitted by *Valerie Simonich*



## Advocacy -

Ela and I had planned to go, again this year, to NYC for the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) meetings. We were notified a few days before we were scheduled to leave on March 5 that the conference had been cancelled due to the corona virus situation. We are sorry we will miss the opportunity to meet with Zontians from all over the world and to share ideas on how to best promote the status of women. CSW is dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. We look forward to attending the conference next year.

Presently, the Advocacy committee is moving forward on a project to work with girls to increase their self-esteem. As you may remember, the club approved a \$5,000 grant from our Zonta Foundation to fund the project. The idea is for trained advocates to work with girls aged 8 to 12 in our rural areas to promote healthy passage through pre-teen years and to empower them. The project is in partnership with the Family Crisis Center (FCC) and a pilot program is scheduled to begin late this school year or the beginning of the next school year. Recently two staff members from FCC attended a two-day training in Bakersfield to become certified in the program. They reported they were very impressed with the training and are anxious to get started.

## January & February Membership Anniversaries

Ela Pandya - 26 years

Sharon Pearson - 22 years

Jan Mekeel - 20 years

Janis Cotton - 15 years

Leslie Woudstra - 13 years

Susan McGuire - 8 years

*Apologies for the formatting error in the Jan/Feb 2020 newsletter that resulted in these members not being properly acknowledged.*

*Valerie*

## March & April Membership Anniversaries

Norma Ruf - 59 years

Shirley Leppert - 1 year

Lawana Tate - 1 year

The Girls Circle is an evidence-based program. Stay tuned as we ramp up this Zonta unique project.

Ela is on the Zonta Advocacy Caucus for Zonta International. Currently, they are working on an International Billboard Project to promote women's issues. We should receive directions soon. Porterville Zonta Club funded billboards several years ago in both Porterville and Lindsay denouncing violence against women.

Mark your calendar for Denim Day this year on April 29. On this day people are encouraged to wear jeans (denim) to raise awareness of rape and sexual assault. Spread the word. Submitted *Mickie Manning*

## Z Club

The Z Clubbers were kept busy these last couple of months. Between providing a Valentine's Day party for clients of CCFCC, helping to coordinate Teen Dating Violence Awareness events at their schools, and representing both the Law, Justice, and Ethics Pathway and Z Club at the First Responder's Memorial Reception Z Clubbers are making an impact on our community. Submitted by *Valerie Simonich*



## Membership

So far this club year we have added 8 new members. Many of us have mentioned our Zonta Club to friends, colleagues, and family. The trick to getting new members is we have to keep asking. Typically, it takes at least three times being asked before someone will commit. This was demonstrated just this past Friday (2/28/2020). Pam Wallace asked her sister, Lisa, to help us at the First Responder's Reception. It's not the first time Lisa has helped out. After seeing so many of us come together Lisa has decided to join! We also had at least two membership applications submitted at our Evening of Art and Wine. Watch for this new member. Thank you for your continued recruitment efforts.

## March & April Birthdays

Pam Wallace - March 18th

Karen Vanni - March 26th

Amy McCarville - March 29th

Mickie Manning - March 30th

Larisa Gibson - April 23rd

Roxanne Uptain - April 27th

The next New Member Social is tentatively scheduled for April 9th at Teresa Hardt's home. A flyer with confirmation and details will be distributed at an upcoming meeting. Submitted by *Valerie Simonich*

## Membership Updates

New, final change of address for

**Janis & Michael Cotton**

5002 S. Sandestin Blvd., #6131

Miramar Beach, FL 32550

Phone/Text (same) 559-920-3360

Email (same) [janiscotton@yahoo.com](mailto:janiscotton@yahoo.com)

## Dates to Remember

- Business Meeting – Tuesday, March 10 – Noon at Rosa's
- Program Meeting – Tuesday, March 24 – 5:30 pm at Fugazzi's
- Zonta Fashion Closet - Saturday, April 4 - 8 am. to 8 pm
- Board Meeting – Monday, April 6 – 5 pm at Steve's
- Membership Social - Thursday, April 9 - 5:30 pm at Teresa Hardt's home. Appetizer theme
- Area 3 Meeting - April 18th - location TBA
- Bunco – Friday, April 24 – 5:00 pm at Nuckols Ranch
- Zonta International Convention - July 4-8th - Chicago. [see website](#)





# **Bunco and Dinner**

## **Under the Stars**

Proceeds support the Zonta Club of Porterville  
Scholarship program

**Friday, April 24, 2020**

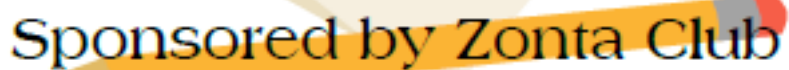
**Dinner - 6 p.m.**

**Bunco - 6:30 p.m.**



**Nuckols Ranch**  
**13144 Road 216, Porterville**  
**Dinner / Drinks / Cash Prizes**

**\$25 person**  
**or table of 4 for \$80**



Sponsored by Zonta Club of Porterville

**For tickets contact**

**Susan McGuire 783-3592**



## Fashion Closet

**April 4, 2020**

**8am - 2pm**

**360 N. Porter Rd**

**(between Putnam & Morton)**

**New and gently loved apparel**  
**...some with designer labels**

- ❁ **Business attire**
- ❁ **Resort wear**
- ❁ **Dressy to Formal apparel**
- ❁ **Shoes**
- ❁ **Purses**
- ❁ **Jewelry**

**Raising funds  
to improve  
the status of  
women locally  
& worldwide**



**For more information**  
**call Pam 359-8911 or Renay 359-6836**